

Mr. Speaker, these simple acts underscore how important of a role private-sector companies play in both the domestic and international communities.

I thank Eli Lilly and the many other companies across the country that are stepping up to the plate and making a difference. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed.

LEAKED DRAFT OPINION OVERTURNING ROE

(Ms. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, last week's draft opinion overturning Roe v. Wade laid bare what is at stake this year for American families. First, most importantly, Roe is still law. This was a draft. Don't cancel your appointment.

Proud science States like Illinois are going to fight this every step of the way. But, ultimately, horrifyingly, that may not matter because American women are facing a retrogression of fundamental legal rights that is unprecedented in modern history because this is not the end. This is just the beginning.

The State-level assault on reproductive freedom has already begun. Next, Republicans plan to ban abortions federally. Then they say they want to go further: our right to contraception; to marry who you love despite their gender or the color of their skin.

Only two things can stop this: the Women's Health Protection Act and a Senate that defends reproductive freedom. We won't stop fighting until we have both.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1103

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE: Ms. Kaptur.
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES: Ms. Garcia of Texas.

Mr. RUIZ (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

RECA EXTENSION ACT OF 2022

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 4119) to reauthorize the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 4119

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "RECA Extension Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE RADIATION EXPOSURE COMPENSATION ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3(d) of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (Public Law 101-426; 42 U.S.C. 2210 note) is amended—

(1) by striking the first sentence and inserting "The Fund shall terminate on the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of the RECA Extension Act of 2022."; and

(2) by striking "22-year period" and inserting "2-year period".

(b) LIMITATION ON CLAIMS.—Section 8(a) of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (Public Law 101-426; 42 U.S.C. 2210 note) is amended by striking "within 22 years after the date of the enactment of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act Amendments of 2000" and inserting "not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the RECA Extension Act of 2022".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 4119, the RECA Extension Act of 2022, would extend the life of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, which is also known as RECA, a trust fund that needs to be extended by this bill for 2 years after the date of the bill's enactment. Action is urgently needed because the RECA trust fund is currently set to expire on July 10 of this year.

The bill would also extend the time to file a RECA claim to within 2 years after the date of enactment.

Originally passed by Congress in 1990, RECA established a program administered by the Department of Justice to pay one-time compensation to individuals harmed by atmospheric testing of

U.S. atomic weapons and to certain uranium mine workers who were harmed as they labored to produce the necessary raw materials for U.S. atomic weapon developments. During its over 30-year history, the RECA program has been improved and supported on a bipartisan basis.

It is my hope that Congress will eventually adopt bipartisan legislation that will further extend the life of the program and expand eligibility to those who have been left out. For now, however, it is important that we extend the RECA trust fund for another 2 years while discussions on these measures continue.

This legislation was introduced by Senator MIKE LEE, and it passed the Senate by unanimous consent. Hopefully, we can send it on to the President's desk here in the House.

I thank Representative GREG STANTON, a longtime champion of the RECA program, for his leadership. Through his efforts, the Judiciary Committee—my Subcommittee on The Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties—held a hearing and marked up legislation strengthening the RECA program, which helped pave the way for this bill.

I also thank Representative TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ who has been an active champion on this issue for her efforts to preserve and expand the RECA program. I also thank our former Member, now a Senator, Senator LUJÁN, who brought this to my attention originally. He has been a champion on this issue, too, for the people of New Mexico and the people affected all throughout the Western United States.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on S. 4119, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in 1990, Congress passed the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act, or RECA, to provide restitution to individuals who got sick from exposure to radiation as a result of the atomic bomb testing between 1945 and 1963. The goal of Congress in 1990 was to provide compensation to people whose health ailments were caused by the U.S. Government's activities.

This intention can be seen in the one-time nature of the payments and in the specific geographic, time, and disease requirements for compensation. Congress last extended and expanded RECA in 2000 and directed that the fund sunset in July of 2022. As that date has drawn closer, there have been bipartisan and bicameral conversations about potentially extending and expanding RECA.

This bill is a clean, 2-year extension of that statute. It does not change the terms; it simply maintains the status quo to provide more time for these conversations to take place. As Congress continues to consider RECA, we must keep in mind the evidence before us.

In 2005, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine completed a congressionally mandated